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GROUP 3600

PATENT  
HTH-1457PCT(US)  
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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT application of )

Cornelis Antonie Tjeenk Willink et al. )

Serial No. 09/869,632 )

Filed June 28, 2001 )

Method for removing Condensables from a Natural )  
Gas Stream at a Wellhead, Downstream of the )  
Wellhead Choke )

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: William P. Neuder

January 2, 2003

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

The following remarks and amendments are responsive to the Office Action mailed September 20, 2002 in the prosecution of the above-identified US patent application. Reconsideration of this application in light of these remarks and amendments is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Amend claims 2, 9-11, and 13 as follows:

B1  
2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein in step B a swirling motion is induced to the supersonic stream of fluid thereby causing the condensables to flow to a radially outer section of a collecting zone in the stream, followed by the subsonic or supersonic extraction of the condensables into an outlet stream from the radially outer section of the collecting zone.

B2  
9. (Twice Amended) The device of claim 8 wherein the shock wave initiator is a diffuser, located so that the shock wave is upstream of the collecting zone.

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